

Maybe it would take an hour longer. Not a month longer. [*Laughter*]

Now, we can laugh about this, because sometimes it hurts too much to cry. But I am telling you, the political reality is that the system believes it can resist the opinion and the desire of the American people. That is what this petition drive is all about.

And don't you think it won't make a difference. This could be a good education for a lot of people all over America. They could teach people how to use the Internet for the first time by putting their name on this petition. We ought to have schoolchildren doing it. We ought to have civic clubs doing it. We ought to have religious organizations doing it. People ought to be accessing—this could be their first experience on the Internet.

But the reason we are here, the true, honest-to-goodness reason we're here is that everybody knows we need to do it; we have now proved we can afford to do it; the whole country is

for it; the system in Washington is resisting it; and the people still rule if they will make their voices heard loud enough. Stand up and be heard.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:57 p.m. in the Great Hall at Memorial Hall. In his remarks, he referred to Joan Bleakly, a patient who was denied access to a specialist; John J. Sweeney, president, AFL-CIO; Judith L. Lichtman, president, National Partnership for Women and Families; Ronald F. Pollack, vice president and executive director, Families USA; Frances M. Visco, president, National Breast Cancer Coalition; Beverly L. Malone, president, American Nurses Association; State Senators Allyson Y. Schwartz and Vincent J. Fumo; State Representative H. William DeWeese, Democratic House leader; Anna C. Verna, president, Philadelphia City Council; Mayor Edward G. Rendell of Philadelphia; and actor-director Roberto Benigni.

Radio Remarks on the Philadelphia Shipyard

April 9, 1999

Last week the U.S. Navy and Philadelphia signed several important agreements that are good for the city, the Navy, and our Nation. I want to thank Mayor Rendell, the people of the United States Navy, and others who were critical to this important achievement. These agreements, combined with the decision by the Norwegian company Kvaerner to invest here, will help transform Philadelphia's huge and historic naval shipyard, generating thousands of high paying jobs, helping to revitalize America's commercial shipbuilding industry. Working together, this remarkable partnership of business,

labor, and Government will modernize the shipyard and train workers to produce state-of-the-art commercial ships. Congratulations to the people of Philadelphia on an important new economic venture.

NOTE: The President's remarks were recorded at approximately 12:30 p.m. in the administrative offices of Memorial Hall in Philadelphia, PA, for later broadcast. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Edward G. Rendell of Philadelphia. These remarks were also made available on the White House Press Office Radio Actuality Line.

Statement on Signing the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Wild and Scenic River Act

April 9, 1999

I have today signed into law H.R. 193, the "Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Wild and Scenic River Act." The Act will designate portions

of the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers in Massachusetts as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. I am pleased that